

# The Brooklyn Bee

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BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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September 2022

Volume 30  
Issue 1

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APRIL 29-30**

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UPDATE**

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**SEPTEMBER  
VENDOR**

Sew Beary Special

Dear Guild Members,

Welcome back everyone!! We hope you had a great summer. We are starting our 30th year as a Guild and we plan to celebrate our birthday throughout the year. Our biggest celebration will be held on April 29th and 30th, 2023, when will showcase our talents at our **Brooklyn Quilts!** quilt show. We have a brand-new venue BKLoft26th which has 17,000 square feet of space for our quilt party. We have plenty of room for challenges, round robins, vendors, demonstrations, speakers, etc., in addition to our spectacular quilts.

We are excited to reveal the 2023 President's Show Challenge. This year the theme is "**Going Green.**" We completely expect you to knock it out of the park on this one! Read the details on page 5 inside and start planning your quilt.

We will continue to hold meetings both virtually and in person. At our September meeting, we look forward to hearing from our Round Robin participants discussing their processes. We will be unveiling our Show Raffle Quilts and we will have our first Block of the Month raffle with Eleanor Lutz and Melissa Fitzpatrick as co-chairs. Please make a block (or two) to kick it off in style! And bring in your recent work for our show and tell at the meeting. Don't be shy! It is wonderful to see the breadth of work being done and get inspired by each other. And if you attend via zoom, send your pictures to Michael, our zoom host at [mgsengstack@msn.com](mailto:mgsengstack@msn.com) by Friday, September 16th.

We can't wait to see you all again. Let's party.

Margaret Marcy Emerson and Micki Segel  
Co-Presidents

# 2021-2022 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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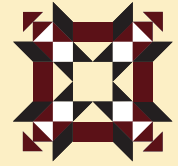
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**Something to share?** The deadline for submissions for the September 2022 issue of *The Brooklyn Bee* is 9 a.m., **Monday, September 19, 2022**. Please email to: [susan.aronoff@gmail.com](mailto:susan.aronoff@gmail.com).



## The Brooklyn Bee

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Alice Braziller

#### COPY EDITORS

Peg Haller

Kate Haller

## Our Social Media Links

### Facebook BOM Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycxzf8fs>

### Facebook Member-Only Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycbwzom9>

### Monthly Show and Tell

<https://tinyurl.com/y6xv5wyd>

### Instagram

@Brooklyn\_Quilters\_Guild

### YouTube

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Qfeous\\_-lc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Qfeous_-lc)

## The Brooklyn Quilters Guild

P. O. Box 150198

Van Brunt Station

Brooklyn, NY 11215-0198

## Guild Meetings

### NEXT MEETING: September 17, 2022, 11 a.m.

Hybrid meeting: In-person at the Holy Name of Jesus Church and on Zoom.

The church is located at 245 Prospect Park West (enter at Shepherd's Hall in the back, off the parking lot).

A mask and proof of vaccination required for all in-person attendees.

**ZOOM MEETING LINK:** <https://tinyurl.com/y3ekc9ug>

**SUNDAY BEES:** Join us on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 1 – 4 p.m. Zoom link Information will be emailed on Sunday morning and can always be accessed on the EVENTS page in the Member section of our website.

# Guild News & Notes

## Community Quilts

Our members have been busy this summer. Here's the latest news.

**ABC Quilts:** Jenn Arzberger writes: Welcome back to Guild meetings. I hope everyone had a great summer and I can't wait to start seeing your beautiful ABC quilts. Stuck on ideas for ABC quilts? Add borders to orphan blocks, or try a new block pattern before committing to a giant quilt. Panels also make no-effort ABC quilts — just add batting and backing and it's done! You can always reach out to me at [jennarzberger@optimum.net](mailto:jennarzberger@optimum.net) with any questions. Remember, we are always looking for donations of backing fabric. We accept flannel, but we prefer cotton.

**Comfort Quilts:** In August, Dori and Leona took 20 bed quilts to be machine quilted by Supreme Quilting in L.I. They also received two quilts machine quilted by Margaret Marcy Emerson and Merry Handfinger and are currently working on the bindings. One bed quilt was delivered to the Park Slope Women's Homeless Shelter at the Armory.

**Hole in the Wall Gang:** Carol Lieberman notes that 22 quilts were left for the Hole in the Wall Gang at the July Heritage Retreat.

**Ronald McDonald House:** Annette Wallace reports that she delivered 47 pillowcases to Ronald McDonald House in NY. And currently has 23 completed cases and 55 kits available for our use. She will not be at the September meeting, but if anyone would like kits contact her at [wallace.netty122@gmail.com](mailto:wallace.netty122@gmail.com). Robin Engelman will be collecting completed pillowcases at the September meeting..

~ Debbie Safian

## Guild Calendar

See the **Bee Blasts** for more information on these events.

### September 2022

**September 11, 1 – 4 p.m.** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

**September 17, 11 a.m.** — Guild meeting, hybrid/Zoom. Proof of vaccination and masks are required to attend the in-person meeting.

**September 25, 1 – 4 p.m.** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

### October 2022

**October 8, 1 – 4 p.m.** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

**October 15, 11 a.m.** — Guild meeting, hybrid/Zoom. Proof of vaccination and masks are required to attend the in-person meeting.

**October 17, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** **Quilts 4 Cops** 5th Annual Quilt Bee. Location: One Police Plaza.

**October 23, 1 – 4 p.m.** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

## Membership Report

Membership in the Brooklyn Guild closed for 2021–2022 at 194 members.

As of August 14th, 61 members have renewed for the current membership year which runs from September 2022 to September 2023. In order to avoid the line at the September meeting, renew now. Dues are still \$60 a year (discounted to \$30 for those under 30 years of age).

Go to <https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/membership> or see page 16) for instructions on how to pay via PayPal online or by mailing a check.

As in the past, funds are available to help members pay for dues and programs. Contact the Membership Co-Chair, Barbara Christ, at [Membership@quiltbrooklyn.org](mailto:Membership@quiltbrooklyn.org) to apply. All requests are confidential.

# BQG Quilt Show 2023

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Save the date! Our next quilt show is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, **April 29 and 30, 2023**, with set-up on Friday, April 28. We are very excited about the venue. If all goes as planned, the show will be held at BKLOFT26, a 17,000-sq.ft. space on 26th St. in Brooklyn between 3rd and 4th Avenues. This will give us plenty of room for lots of quilts, plus two raffle quilts, the silent auction, the tote bag raffle, vendors and demonstrations. Robin Engelman and Ellen Piccolo have begun laying out a plan for the space.

Meanwhile our committee chairs are moving ahead. The two raffle quilts are underway and will be unveiled at the September meeting. One is a wonky design and the other is a traditional design. Barbara Danzi organized the wonky quilt. She sent the squares that Guild members made to other members to sew together. Margaret Marcy Emerson and Chris Janove sewed the small blocks together to create the center section; then Joy West created the first border made of mid-sized blocks. Finally Mary Hawley and Martha McDonald sewed the outer borders together using large blocks, and Leona Shapiro put all the sections together. The quilt top went back to Barbara for quilting and then Micki Segel and Barb Christ did the binding.

"Thank you to everyone who made and submitted blocks. There is a wonderful variety which gives the quilt a beautiful vibrance," said Barbara Danzi.

Marcie Brenner has organized the traditional quilt, a sunflower design. She donated the center piece and all of the fabric and she is also quilting it. The funds raised from the sale of tickets for this 84x84-inch quilt will be donated to a charity to help Ukraine. Robin Engelman and Joy West were two of several members who contributed sunflower blocks.

Joyce Crupi noted that show quilts need to be registered and photographed by the February meeting. "Quilts should be no larger than 90x90 inches," she said. "They don't sit that well when they are tucked under at the bottom."

"Usually we have drop off at my house," said Merrie Handfinger. "Members will get a receipt and each quilt gets hanging chains and a label. Someone picks up those quilts and takes them to the venue."

Debbie Breckenridge is organizing tours for the show. "For my committee, there's not much prep involved," she said. "All I need is a couple of volunteers to lead the guided tours, but I don't need to nail that down until the month before the show. We typically have two tours on Saturday

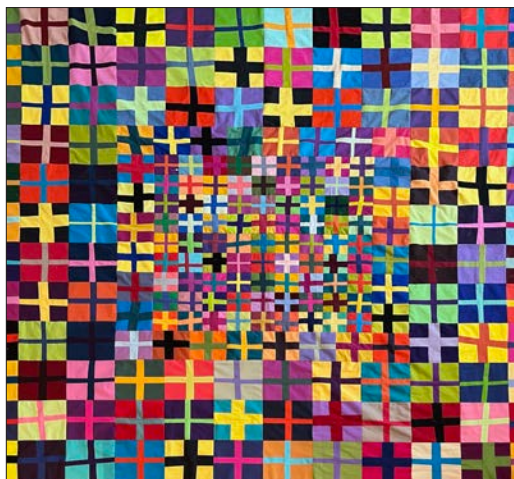
and two on Sunday. For past shows, I've led one or two of the tours myself and I plan to do that again. The only other thing I need is a sign for the tours. We can use the same signs that were created for past shows if those are still around."

Demonstrations will focus on reuse and recycling fabrics by mending. "It will be creative mending," said co-chair Madi Appell. She and Susan Aronoff are planning a variety of demonstrations for the show.

In other news, the various committees are moving ahead. For example, the silent auction is organized and ready to go, with quilts donated for the 2020 show that was cancelled. Anyone who donated and now wants to take back their quilt, or change the opening bid or the (optional) "buy it now" price, should contact Kate Haller ([katehaller@gmail.com](mailto:katehaller@gmail.com)) before the September meeting. By the October meeting, we will know whether we can use new quilt donations for 2023.

Susan Sato is contacting vendors for the show and Ginny Dorris has taken over the tote bag raffle. Many thanks to all of the volunteers. We are looking forward to a great show!

Any more news? Please keep us up to date. Contact show co-chairs Martha McDonald at [texasmc@hotmail.com](mailto:texasmc@hotmail.com) or Andrew Hansen at [Andrew.ve.hansen@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.ve.hansen@gmail.com).



## PRESIDENTS' CHALLENGE 2023

# GOING GREEN

**Green, the color associated with 30th anniversaries and our theme for the challenge. Interpret as you will: Think nature, environment, sustainability, money, jealousy, envy... Have fun and be creative!**

- Size: 36" x 36" square.
- Must feature the color green in a significant way.
- Must include a hanging sleeve and quilt label on the back.
- New quilts — not previously shown at any BQG shows.
- Deadline: Saturday, March 18, 2023 Guild meeting.

**Quilts will be displayed at our April 2023 Quilt Show.**

## 2022 RETREATS

### Cross Roads in New Jersey

Cross Roads is a camp and retreat facility located in Port Murray, NJ, one and a half hours from Brooklyn. Information about Cross Roads can be found on the website, [www.crossroadsretreat.com](http://www.crossroadsretreat.com).

We have secured the following upcoming retreat date for **2022 at Cross Roads**: October 23-28.

For more information, contact:  
Martha Musgrove ([marf86@hotmail.com](mailto:marf86@hotmail.com)) or  
Susan Aronoff ([susan.aronoff@gmail.com](mailto:susan.aronoff@gmail.com)).

### Heritage in Connecticut

The Heritage Hotel is a Spa and Conference Center in Southbury, CT, about one hour and 45 minutes from Brooklyn. For more information, go to: <https://www.heritagesouthbury.com>

#### 2022 Heritage retreats

Monday - Wednesday, October 24- 26 ( extra days  
Thursday and Friday, October 27-28)

If interested, please contact Carol Lieberman, 917-439-9549, or email: [clieber@verizon.net](mailto:clieber@verizon.net).

More detailed information on the retreats can be found on the Guild's website at <https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/retreats>.





# Urban Sustainability Quilt:

## GETTING OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE

BY MARGARET MARCY EMERSON

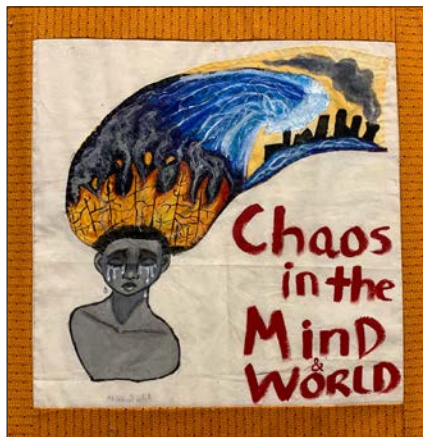
Last semester I was asked to co-teach a literature class, “Urban Sustainability through Literature, Science, and the Arts” at Long Island University. As the teaching artist, I helped the students (and my fellow teacher) make individual collage-style quilt blocks on themes of urban living/sustainability. The blocks were to be assembled into a group quilt.

Confession: I was more than a little anxious about this project. The class was filled with fresh, smart, overworked 20-year-olds; none of them art majors; — and only one student had ever sewn before. Would they be into this? Could I spark their interest? I had taught quilting and sewing for years but always with people eager and choosing to sew. Faced with these young novices, some whom hadn’t realized that the class would require the sewing, took me way out of my comfort zone.

My co-teacher, Deborah Mutnick, was fabulous. The students read poetry, essays, fiction, and nonfiction relating to urban living and sustainability — including issues of climate change, biodiversity, pollution in poorer neighborhoods, technology, food deserts, mental health issues relating to environmental challenges, as well as green alternatives and solutions. They would finish the semester completing a research paper and a hand-sewn quilt block on their chosen topic.

First day, I asked the class if they were excited about making a quilt. After a long pause they said “yes” but also confessed that they were anxious and scared. (I was not

the only one!) These students were all science majors — honor students with extremely demanding schedules. I was determined to make the class fun, interesting and doable. I presented multiple slide shows of historical quilts, including resistance quilts, remembrance quilts, social justice quilts, and environmentally themed quilts (including many of our Guild’s Earth Day quilts. Thank you!) I collected supplies from my stash and our abundant free table (again, thank you) to supply the class with all needed materials.



When the blocks were due, each student presented a beautiful square. In six days we had the blocks sewn into a group quilt and presented at the LIU Earth Day celebration. At the end of the project, the students noted that creating art helped them to focus on and express their ideas more clearly. They told me their demanding workloads rarely allowed time for “play” and how much they enjoyed the time scheduled for quilting. They found sewing stress-reducing and therapeutic.

They were all proud of their final products. Several of the young men hoped to make their own quilts over the summer.

Sustainability Quilt continued on page 7

I am so proud of what my students accomplished, of their feelings and of the quilt we made together. Here are some of their comments:

"This class made us pay attention to the city and the environment in ways we never had done before. Seeing everyone's squares for the quilt helped us consider problems that we hadn't previously focused on and realize the responsibilities we owe to the city and planet."

"To tie, or sew, it all, we as a class came together to make our quilts, a powerful statement about what influence art can hold, and the many forms it can take. I was very unfamiliar with quilting prior to taking this class, and to make a quilt seemed difficult and unnecessary. However, all that changed when I put the time and effort into its production, and seeing the finished product after hours of hard work was a relieving, and inspiring experience. To put it bluntly, the quilt is absolutely stunning. The most profound impact on me of this course, and this semester, was certainly the realization that humanity is not lost, but abundant. The world is what you make it, and I can now say that I see the brighter side of our world, our communities, and our homes. Instead of worrying about my own future, I've now begun to think about the possibilities of our futures."



I can see the power of community, and hope to truly be a part of something bigger and better in the future."

"Even though we were initially scared about making a quilt, we ended up feeling proud of ourselves and found the process very enjoyable. It was cool, a little messy, and stress-relieving. It encouraged us to commit to the ideas we explored in class and in our research projects, understand the problems, and think of solutions. It was a call to action. It helped us explore our own creativity. And it pushed us to reimagine a sustainable world rooted in social equality and respect for nature."

For myself, it's when I step out of my comfort zone that I feel most vulnerable, most self-aware, and most courageous. That's when I have the most potential for growth. For all of this I am grateful.

Thank you to Sharon Calandra who assisted me putting the class quilt together in record time, to Val Turer who generously shared her environmental quilts with the class, and to Micki Segel who helped organize a BQG Earth Day quilts display at the LIU Earth Day Celebration.

The finished quilt can be seen online: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/9eccaf1d-e295-4d46-a4d4-afb2f485183e>.



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# Reflections on the 2022 Round Robin

I confess, I didn't work on the Round Robin. But, with Leona Shapiro and Andrew Hanson, I helped collect and redistribute blocks, which means that eventually I saw each and every block. And, I learned from my point of observation.

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I learned to be a little less fearful about leaping into the void of uncertainty.

You all did amazing work. I loved the surprising combination of quilting styles and techniques. Thank you Micki for your planning and for putting this community event into play.

~ Susan Aronoff

## Martha Musgrove

From this Round Robin Guild collaboration, I learned to make some new borders. A migrating geese border, which is sort of a cross between the flying geese block and braid-type construction. I learned that from research on the Internet; and I think it looked good on the quilt. Also, I made a diamonds lying on their side surround, which I devised myself. Then I made one which I chose for a final border, because I thought it made a strong border/frame impact. It was a curved, two-color construction made using a special new-to-me template, called The Learning Curve. The effect was a scalloped border, with strong contrast: bright yellow on the inside, and navy on the outside.



Alice Braziller learned to find a motif to repeat in her round.

## Leslie Pollard:

1. Measuring twice cutting once doesn't always work.
2. Don't procrastinate
3. Once you decide, commit— from the time you change your mind, you run the risk of not finishing on time.
4. Work on your Round Robin before working on your own work

## Thomas Urciuoli

writes that the Round Robin was both a creative challenge and a commitment to produce a favorable addition to the Mystery Block distributed to the participants each month. There were many incredible variations of designed beginning blocks and fabric scraps included with the package of Round Robin Blocks. This made for possible additions to expand and enhance the project and motivated me to lay-out my design ideas to add a dynamic border that perhaps would inspire the next participant to do the same.



**Madi Appell**

was challenged to keep the same rhythm and color scheme as prior rounds. The packages I got didn't always have enough fabric. This challenged me to find coordinating fabric from my stash.

Because I was so worried about pleasing the original maker, I had a friend come over to consult with me.

For me, the hardest part was completing the last round, but all in all, the Round Robin was fun.

**Debbie Breckenridge**

learned:

that it is much easier to add a pieced border to a solid (i.e. non-pieced) border than it is to add a pieced border to a pieced border. For that reason, if I received a top during the challenge that had a pieced border as the outer border, I added a solid border first, before adding my pieced border.

enjoyed:

the color and fabric selections made by the people who preceded me in the round robin. Often there were color selections I would not have chosen myself, so it forced me to work outside of my comfort zone. The other most enjoyable part of this challenge was seeing what everyone added to my center square to make it into an amazing scrappy quilt top by the end of the challenge.

**Debbie Breckenridge**

suggests that in future Round Robins everyone be sure to fully press and "square off" the border they added, so that it lays flat and square, before passing along the top to the next round of the challenge. Even 1/4-inch or-1/2 inch variations in the measurements can "multiply" once additional borders are added all around, making for a wavy top that does not lay flat. I also recommend that the guild try a "row by row" challenge for members who are intimidated by the precision required for a round robin challenge.

# Events of Note

September has arrived with several group shows that include Brooklyn Quilters Guild Members. Locally visit: The Hudson Street Gallery for work by Barbara Danzi and Christine Janove; and Kente Royal Gallery for work by Barbara Danzi, Diane Pryor Holland, Rochelle Holland, Sylvia Hernandez, Christine Janove, and Thadine Wormly-Herndon. See below.

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**The Brush Gallery; Annual Art Quilt Exhibition: Tree, Tree, Tree. August 6 to September 17, 2022;** Reception August 13; (Tues – Sat) 11 am – 4pm; Sunday 12 noon – 4 pm. For more information: <https://www.thebrush.org/>

**The Art of the Reveal; New York City Metro Modern Quilters Guild. August 11 through October 13;** Hudson Guild Gallery, 441 West 26th St., NYC 10011. This is a group show organized by Will Daniels, featuring work by 15 artists from the New York City Metro Modern Quilters Guild (including Brooklyn Quilters Guild members Barbara Danzi and Christine Janove). For more information: <https://hudsonguild.org/events>

**Kente Royal Gallery, Art on Site, September 3 through September 25,** Opening is Saturday, September 3, 5–7 pm at 2373 Adam Clayton Powell Jr Blvd, New York. Wednesday – Friday 2pm–8 pm; Saturday – Sunday 12noon–8:00pm. Virtual visit on Friday, September 9, 7–8 pm will feature Diane Pryor Holland. RSVP: [williamdaniels523@gmail.com](mailto:williamdaniels523@gmail.com) for the zoom link.

**Quilts in the Mill,** Courthouse Quilters Guild is proud to present the 2022 Quilts in the Mill Show and Boutique, **September 30 through October. 2,** in Stockton, NJ. There will be over 200 hand-made quilts on display along with vendors, raffles, door prizes, etc. There is a discount when you purchase 8 or more tickets at a time, they are \$10 each instead of \$12. For more information: <http://www.courthousequilters.org/quilts-in-the-mill-show.html>

**Maria Shell: Off the Grid,** Shelburne Museum, **through October 16.** Tuesday – Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information: <https://shelburnemuseum.org/exhibition/maria-shell/>.

**Evening Star Quilters Harvest of Quilts XVIII Quilt Show. Saturday November 5th** from 10 am to 5:pm, and **Sunday November 6th,** from 10 a.m. to 4 pm. The Mineola Community Center, 155 Washington Avenue, Mineola, NY 11501. Admission: Adults \$10.00, Children under 12 \$5.00.

## Quilting Trees with Christine Janove

After many years of art quilt Summer Challenges, I became involved with a few art quilting seminars during our two years of stay-at-home time.

As fate would have it, the Zooms with teacher/curator/quilter William Daniels resulted in a gallery show in Chelsea, at the Hudson Guild Gallery: **The Art of the Reveal.**

Interested in bringing nature into my art, I designed a paper-pieced tree in “*Winter*”, revealing the structure, the skeleton as it were, of a stylized tree. I chose to stitch this tree in magenta to express the royalty I see in the strength of trees in winter, as they endure wind and cold yet remain whole. My minimalist art afforded negative space to do some interesting straight line stitching on my domestic machine. On view until October 19, 2022, 441 West 26 Street, NYC

For a brief glimpse (about 12 minutes) of all quilts in this show, click here:

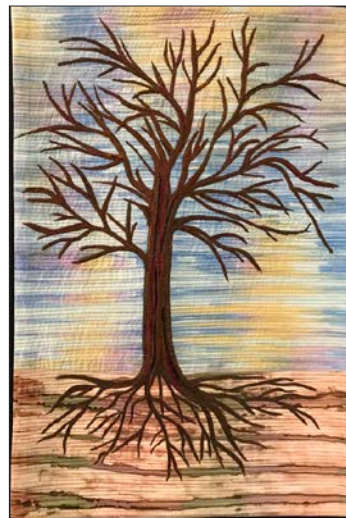
<https://youtu.be/nWpBuyerpVE>



Winter 24 x 36 inches, batik fabric

When “*Winter*” (the magenta tree) was completed I returned to another tree quilt, begun but put aside when I felt stumped as to how to proceed. This tree, “*Winter Sunrise*” required hours of couching to give texture to trunk, branches and roots. Twisted lace, seam binding and yarns are some of the materials used to imitate bark.

Again, as fate would have it, I was perusing “calls for submissions” online, in one of the many art quilt related organizations I joined during the pandemic, and there was a call for an exhibit titled “*Tree, Tree, Tree*” at The Brush Art Gallery in Lowell, MA. My conscious mind said “If not now, when?” I sent pictures of this quilt to the gallery in May, received an acceptance



Winter Sunrise 24 x 36 inches, batik fabric

email in June, the day before my birthday. We are all artists. It is time to call ourselves that and recognize quilts as artwork.

I attended the Artists Reception on August 13, happy to see my work hanging alongside other fabric treasures, all tree related! **The Brush Art Gallery,** 256 Market Street, Lowell, MA.

# Eleanor Lutz: BOM

Hello quilters,

I'm Eleanor Lutz, and I'm running the guild Block of the Month this year alongside Melissa Fitzpatrick. I'm excited to share our theme this year — a quilted neighborhood!

I really enjoyed the process of coming up with ideas for ten blocks that fit a theme. One of the biggest challenges was picking blocks that could all go into a finished B.O.M. quilt, but would also look good bundled together for our monthly raffle quilts. I finally decided on a "neighborhood" theme because all kinds of different things belong naturally in a neighborhood, from buildings to flowers to birds and people. I think it'll be a fun chance to try a lot of different blocks that can still fit into one quilt at the end.

We're starting off September with a block featuring two neighborhood buildings. I'm hoping folks can have fun picking wacky fabrics for the walls and roofs. And Melissa carefully tested and edited the block with new quilters in mind, so we're also hoping everyone can enjoy the block. Stay tuned for next month's block, and happy quilting!

~ Eleanor Lutz

## BLOCK OF THE MONTH



The June Block of the Month was a bunch of carrots. The winner of the for June, the carrot, was Margaret Marcy Emerson. Congratulations Margaret! .

### SEW SMART

## Tips N' Tools

Hello dear friends and welcome back to a new year of quilting that promises many adventures.

To start the year off with the column, something I found myself using a lot this summer is Blue Painter's Masking Tape. Here are some of the ways I used it:

- I used a tiny dot of the tape to identify my rulers, templates, scissors, and all cutting tools. I found the tape more helpful in identifying my tools than the return address labels I was using. No more searching for which ruler is mine. The blue dot screams, "This is yours!"
- I use it on my machine to mark the 1/4-inch seam allowance.
- I used the sticky side of the tape to clean my design wall.

- To quilt straight lines, sew on each side of the tape on your quilt sandwich. Here's a little video to demonstrate.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKnoxWbp0cc>

I want to kick up this column this year and include new voices, so please start thinking of tools, tips and shortcuts that are a part of your quilting life. I'll have handouts at our September meeting for you to fill out so start thinking about it now. Thanks so much.

My best,

Alice Braziller  
917-557-0112



# Sew Know: QUILTY MATH

BY MARCIE BRENNER, MCSE

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**D**ESIGNING QUILTS begins with deciding if it will be a single block repetition, or a variety of blocks to create an overall pattern or sampler. Many 12-inch blocks are based on a 3X3-inch or 4X4-inch grid because they divide easily, 4 inches and 3 inches respectively. The 4-inch and 3-inch divisions can be subdivided into 1-inch increments or 2 inches and 1 ½ inches, increasing the versatility. Instead of adding more blocks to a quilt design to increase the size, the block size can be made bigger: a 4-inch block made 1 ½ times is 6 inches on a 3X3 grid equals an 18-inch block; a 3-inch block increased 1 ½ times is 4 ½ inches, also 18 inches. There are quilts that are constructed from a single block that has been oversized.

Twelve-inch quilt blocks can also be created from other grids: 2X2 – 6-inch, 6X6 – 2-inch, 8X8 – 1 ½-inch. When

working with 5X5- and 7X7-inch layouts, it becomes a little more challenging if a 12-inch block is needed, as it will not divide easily. The solution is to find the fractional number closest to the smaller number that is easy to cut, i.e. 2 ¼ inches for a 5X5 (11 ¼ inches) and 1 ½ inches for a 7X7 (10 inches). To bring the block up to the correct size, coping strips, usually of the background fabric, are added to the four sides, then the block is squared to the needed size.

Graph paper is one way to create blocks and layouts, another is the software program **Electric Quilt**. There are many quilt books that are available to help design a quilt and there are ones such as **Quilt Block Genius** by Sue Voegtlin that does all the calculating for you and gives you the cutting instructions.

Sizes in this article refer to finished sizes. Cut pieces need to be ½-inch bigger, to allow for seam allowances.



Quilt block: 5X5-inch grid



Quilt block: 2x2-inch grid



Quilt block: 8x8-inch grid



Quilt block: 3x3-inch grid



# NEXTDOOR NEIGHBORS

September 2022 Block of the Month • BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD

By Eleanor Lutz & Melissa Fitzpatrick



## Fabrics & Cutting

**Roofs and doors** (dark fabric suggested)

**A:** 2x Roofs, **5.75x3.25 in.**

**B:** 2x Doors, **2x2.5 in.**

**Walls** (two different colorful fabrics suggested)

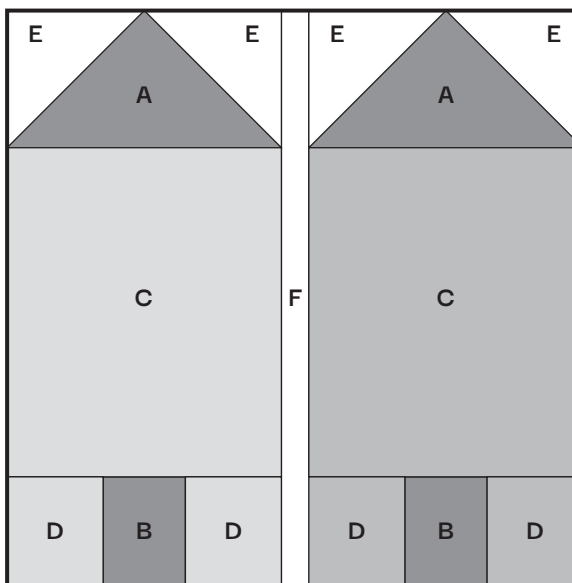
**C:** 2x Large (1 per fabric), **5.5x6.5 in.**

**D:** 4x Small (2 per fabric), **2.25x2.5 in.**

**Background** (light fabric suggested)

**E:** 4x Squares, **3.25x3.25 in.**

**F:** 1x Center strip, **1x11 in.**



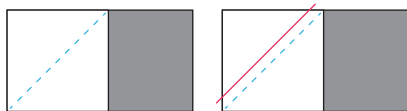
## Instructions

All seam allowances are  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. Finished block is 11x11 in.

1: Draw one diagonal line on the back of each background square (E) in washable marker or chalk.

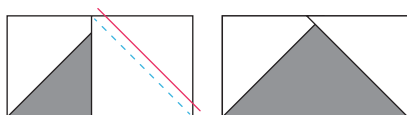


2: With right sides together, sew one small background square (E) onto each roof (A), following the diagonal line you drew earlier. Trim the block and iron flat.



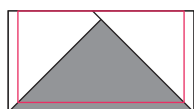
1. Sew  
2. Trim  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. away from seam

3. Sew another background square (E) onto each roof (A), following the diagonal line you drew earlier. Trim and iron.



1. Sew  
2. Trim  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. away from seam

4. Cut your two roof sections down to 5.5 x 3 in., leaving  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. of background fabric at the top of the roof. This will help straighten out your block if it's a little crooked.



5. Sew one small wall (D) onto each side of the doors (B).



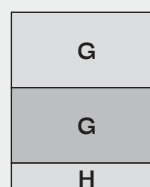
6. Iron your door section flat.

7. Sew each door section to the bottom of the large wall piece (C) that is the same color as the door section.

8. Sew one roof section to the top of each house.

9: Iron again, then sew the two houses together with the center background strip (F) in between.

### Optional instructions for a scrappy 3-story house



If you only have smaller fabrics, you can replace each large wall (C) with:

**G:** 2x Upper walls, **5.5x3 in.**

**H:** 1x Lower wall, same fabric as (D), **5.5x1.5 in.**

Welcome to the 2022 Block of the Month! This year's theme is **Neighborhood Friends**.

Bring your block to our next guild meeting to enter the lottery and win that month's collection of blocks! If you can't come to the meeting, you can enter by sharing your block on our B.O.M. Facebook by 10a.m. the morning of the Guild Meeting. Each completed block gives you a chance to win, whether you are present at the meeting or not. Blocks will be collected from those attending the meeting in person. Everyone else will privately mail their blocks to the winner.

 [facebook.com/groups/838028493370905](https://facebook.com/groups/838028493370905)

# The Brooklyn Quilters Guild

## 2022-2023 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Join The Brooklyn Quilters Guild! Annual dues are \$60 (reduced to \$30 for members under 30 years of age). Member benefits include information-packed meetings, breathtaking Show & Tells, fabulous vendors, exciting speakers, and the monthly Guild newsletter. BQG members also receive discounts at local quilt shops! Questions? Visit us on Facebook at Brooklyn Quilters Guild or on our website [www.quiltbrooklyn.org](http://www.quiltbrooklyn.org).

NEW MEMBER       RENEWAL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER DIRECTORY: The member information you entered above will be available only to members on our website unless you check one of the boxes below. Please let us know if there is any information you prefer to remain private.

No address       No phone numbers       No email address

Send your Directory Photo to [guild@quiltbrooklyn.org](mailto:guild@quiltbrooklyn.org).

Payment:  DUES \$60 (or \$30/under 30) +  DONATION\* \_\_\_\_\_ +  OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*By adding a gift to your Membership Dues, you can support another Guild member who may need your help to continue participating in our creative community. Any amount is welcome.

- By Check: Make check out to: The Brooklyn Quilters Guild and mail to the Guild's PO Box along with this form.
- By PayPal: Use email [BQG.Treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:BQG.Treasurer@gmail.com). See "How to" details at [www.quiltbrooklyn.org/membership](http://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/membership). Then send this form to the membership chair at [BQG.Membership@gmail.com](mailto:BQG.Membership@gmail.com).
- In Person: Bring this form with your check or cash payment. See website for next in-person meeting.

### MAILING ADDRESS:

The Brooklyn Quilters Guild  
P.O. Box 150198, Van Brunt Station  
Brooklyn, NY 11215-0198

MEMBERSHIP CARDS will be available at the meeting following your renewal. If you'd like it sent to you, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to our P.O. Box.

VOLUNTEER: Please consider volunteering at one meeting a year to help maintain an enjoyable, supportive atmosphere. Indicate the committee(s) that interest you and meeting(s) at which you are available. Chairperson(s) will check with you before scheduling you for a particular month.

- Hospitality: help Chairs set up before meetings and clean up afterwards
- Membership: assist Chairs at Membership Table before & during meeting
- Easy as ABC Quilts: assist Chair in preparing quilts for finishing
- Small Raffle: assist Chair during the meeting to assemble prizes and sell raffle tickets

September     October     November     December     January  
 February     March     April     May     June

For membership committee use

Check# \_\_\_\_\_     Paypal# \_\_\_\_\_     CashRecpt# \_\_\_\_\_     Date: \_\_\_\_\_     Init: \_\_\_\_\_