



Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild

SEPTEMBER 2026

Upcoming Wa Shonaji Programs

August 1-December 12– Wa Shonaji Exhibit at Blair-Caldwell

Celebrate Colorado's 150th Anniversary of Statehood and America's 250th Anniversary through the art of quilting. Enjoy a special exhibit featuring quilts that honor history, culture, creativity, and community. Location: Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library 2401 Welton St., Denver, CO 80205 2nd Floor – Reading Room Hours: Monday–Friday, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Admission is free.

September 12, 2026 – Quilt Exhibit and Art Fair

Event will take place at CrossPurpose from 10am-3pm. **There will not be a general meeting for September.**

September 14, 2026 – Trunk Show

Trunk Show at Columbine Quilt Guild – Arvada, CO. They meet at the Denver Church of Christ – 6925 Carr Street – Arvada, CO. Visit their website at columbinequiltguild.org Arrival for setup is 5:30. The program starts at 6:30.

September 19, 26 & October 10, 31, 2026 – Beginner Quilting Class

Contact Linda White. \$40 for members, \$80 for non members (includes ½ year membership).

October 3, 2026 –Schlep Bag with Joanne Walton

Contact Linda White. \$10 member fee

November 7, 2026– Lecture with Carol Ann Waugh

Carol Ann Waugh is a fiber artist based in Denver, Colorado, whose artistic journey began with writing a book about how to design and make a quilt published in 1977 and evolved 25 years later into a career as a professional fiber artist.



Carol Ann first came to fiber through the communal and generous tradition of quilting for others—learning the fundamentals of design, construction, and handwork while creating pieces meant to offer comfort and care. What began as service-driven making gradually became a deeper artistic exploration, as she refined her skills and discovered the expressive power of cloth and stitching.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- Aug1– Dec 12 – Exhibit at Blair-Caldwell
- September 12 – Quilt Exhibit & Art Fair
- September 14 –Trunk Show
- September 19, 26 & October 10, 31 – Beginner Quilting Class
- October 3 – Schlep Bag
- October 8-11 – Retreat
- November 7– Lecture w/ Carol Ann Waugh
- December 5– Holiday Luncheon

Upcoming Programs Cont'd

Over time, her commitment to craftsmanship and her unmistakable hand with needle and thread led her to develop a professional body of work recognized well beyond the quilting community. Her fiber pieces have been acquired by hospitals and corporate collections, spaces that value not only technical excellence but also the warmth, humanity, and quiet strength her work brings into public environments.

Carol Ann will share how this journey—from making charitable quilts to collected artwork—shaped her artistic voice, her process, and her understanding of quilt-making as both a practical and profoundly expressive medium. You can find more information about her and see a gallery of some of her fiber art at www.CarolAnnWaugh.com

December 5, 2026– Holiday Luncheon

Annual Holiday luncheon at CrossPurpose. \$40.

President's Message

Our Time/Turn at the Museum

As you know, quilts created by members of the Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild are scheduled to exhibit at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum beginning in October 2027. The exhibition theme is "Our Jazz Has the Blues." As we are preparing for the exhibit, here are a few things to consider:

Do you recall the scene in the Gee's Bend play when Gee's Bend quilters saw their quilts in the museum? The scene depicts the quilters in awe of their quilts because now, they are in a museum. It was, as if, before the quilts were put into the museum, they had no value. I am certainly not suggesting that I/we can have feelings comparable to those Gee's Bends quilters (as sale of their quilts changed their lives) but... it certainly is an honor to have Wa Shonaji quilts on display for, potentially, a global audience.

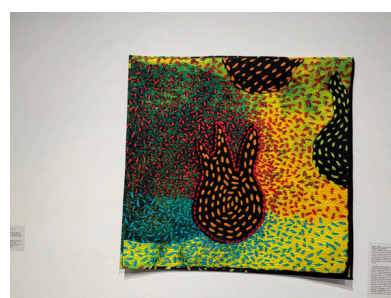
We are learning to make museum quality quilts. This could mean that quilters selected to exhibit, should be able to

make quilts suitable for other judged exhibitions. In preparation for exhibit, I have learned about; color selection, binding, facing, and quilting patterns, among other things. The teachers, including Valerie White, Karen VonPhul and Linda White have been willing to provide all the information required to achieve museum quality. A big thanks to all the teachers.

Finally, the museum last exhibited quilts made by African Americans in 2018. This is a great opportunity to showcase the quilting skills/talents of Wa Shonaji.

As a board member of the RMQM, I am always thinking of ways to increase visits to the museum. So... I am requesting that we invite our family, friends, acquaintances, etc., to the Wa Shonaji exhibit especially on opening night. Let's show up!

--Joette Bailey-Keown, President



New Board Members Needed to Serve for 2027

Our Guild is looking for members who are interested in holding a position as a board member for Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild in 2027. All positions are open. If you are interested in adding your name to the Ballot for one of these positions, **please contact me, Nanci Vaughn**. You may also reference our by-laws for a description of "Officer Duties," under **Article IV, Section 7**. Or if you just want to find out more about what the job entails, please contact the person currently holding the position for more information.

Our Board consists of:

- The President
- Vice President of Programs
- Vice President of Membership
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Historian
- Newsletter Editor
- Exhibits Coordinator

Our election normally takes place in November, at the Guild's regular meeting place. Since nominees will need to be reviewed or confirmed by the current Board please have your response in by September 2026.

--Nanci Vaughn, Parliamentarian

Comfort Quilts Update

As of July 2026, our Guild has a total of 46 Comfort Quilts in our inventory. This is in thanks to our talented and thoughtful members.

For our newer members, I always like to put it out there, every once in a while, the reason our members yearly donate a quilt they have made, back to our Guild.

As the name implies, a "Comfort" quilt is donated to a member or a member's immediate family, due to the loss of that loved one. Immediate family means the loss of a member's, father, mother, sister, brother, husband, wife, or child. Also a comfort quilt may be given in celebration of the birth of a first grandchild or child.

Making a quilt every year not only helps sharpen our skills but keeps our creative juices alive. So, if you are thinking about who you might give the quilt you are currently working on to (because all your kids, nieces, nephews, and grandkids already have a quilt), think about your Guild.

Thanks go out to, Mary Lassiter, Deborah Sweatt, Lynette Johnson, Kathy Byers.

Keep on sewing and you will keep on growing.

--Nanci Vaughn, Comfort Quilt Chair

2026 Block of the Month Updates

We are in the home stretch for the 2026 Block of the Month. Since we met our quota for the quilt donations to Raise the Future, the blocks collected from the last two BOMs in 2026 will be made into quilts that will be donated back to the guild.

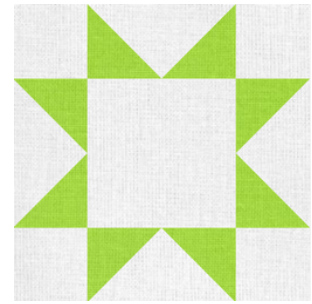
Please note that the Sawtooth star block will be the BOM for both September and October. I decided to combine these two months together because there is no general meeting in September.

The last BOM for 2026 will be the Air Castle block. There will not be a BOM for December because there will be no general meeting (just the luncheon).

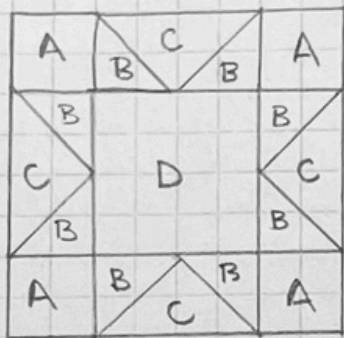
The instructions for the last two BOMs of 2026 will be included below.

September/October BOM

September & October's block of the month is the Sawtooth Star block. The colors are lime green and white. You can bring the finished blocks to the event in September (drop it off at the vendor's table in the labeled bag) or turn it into Daryn Miller at the October meeting.



Sawtooth Star



12.5" Block

Colors

Lime Green/chartreuse B
white A - C - D

Cut

A 4 ☐
B 4 ☐
C 1 ☐
D 1 ☐

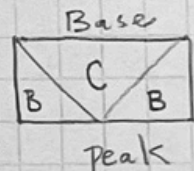
need

4 ☐
8 ☒
4 ☒
1 ☐

size

3 1/2 white
3 7/8 green
7 1/4 white
6 1/2 white

1. sew B to C then add another B
Line Base of B on Base of C.
Sew all 4 B/C/B units



2. Row 1 sew A to B/C/B unit add another A
3. Row 2 sew B/C/B unit to D add another B/C/B
4. Row 3 sew A to B/C/B add another A
5. Sew Row 1 to Row 2
6. Sew Row 3 to Row 2
7. Press well

November Block of the Month (BOM)

November's block of the month is the Aircastle block. Choose any light, medium and dark colors you want. These will be due at the November meeting.



Air Castle



3 colors

Dark
medium
Light

B
D and E
A and C

Right Version

	Cut	Need	12"	
A	2	4	4 7/8	your choice
B	4	8	4 7/8	Red
C	1	4	5 1/4	same as A
D	1	4	5 1/4	yellow
E	1	1	4 1/2	yellow

1. Sew A to B to create 4 Half square triangles
2. Cut C+D in quarters
3. Pay attention to placement of the colors
sew C to D to create 4 (C/D unit)
4. Cut the remaining B (2 blocks) in half
5. Sew 1/2 B to a C/D unit creating 4 squares
6. Row 1 Sew A/B unit to a B/C/D unit.
Then add another A/B unit
7. Row 2 Sew B/C/D unit to E add another B/C/D unit
8. Row 3 Sew A/B unit to B/C/D unit add another A/B

9. Sew Row 1 to Row 2

10. Sew Row 3 to Row 2

11. Press well

UFO Challenge

From UFOs (Unfinished Objects) to OFUs (Objects Finished Up)

Almost there 2026 UFO challengers. How was it having 3 months instead of 2 to finish up your projects? Our July finishers were Geneva Lottie, Joanne Walton, Linda White, Karen von Phul, Lynette Johnson, Wendy Williams, Nonetta Pierre, Daryn Miller, Elaine Miller and Adrienne Bryant.

October will be the last time to get your name into the drawing for the kitty for completing your #3 UFO on time. If you will not be present for the meeting when it is due, you must send me a picture of your completed OFU. Completed means totally quilted, bound, decorated, labeled (if you choose) and ready for use.

I'm sure the recipients of your OFUs (if given away) are smiling cheek to cheek.

-- Reniese Johnson



Quilted by Artie Johnson 26 Feb 2018

New Members

- Ivanna Johnson-McMurry
- Toni Fisher
- Jamie Jones
- Diane Davenport
- Carolyn Somerville (re-joined)
- Sandra Blackwell
- Lindsay Chatfield (daughter of Julie Marsh)

Sunshine and Shadows

September Birthdays:

1st – Deborah Sweatt
3rd – Dottie Lindholm
5th – Ann Worsencroft
6th – Joette Bailey-Keown
18th – Nancy Adamchak
18th – Gloria Montgomery
19th – Sandra Coleman
28th – Amy Shaffer



Happy Birthday! May your rotary cutter stay sharp and your points always match.

October Birthdays:

13th – Ivanna Johnson-McMurry
16th – Reniese Johnson
17th – Nyzelah Norwood
25th – Annie Howard
25th – De Lois Powell
27th – Karen von Phul



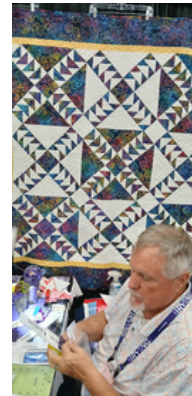
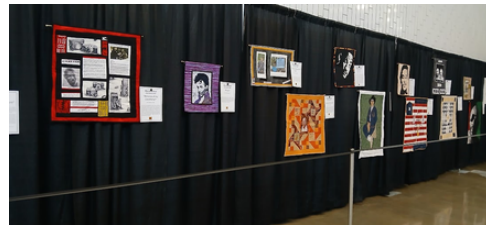
Happy Birthday! May your fabric stash bring you as much happiness as your finished pieces.

Priscilla's Adventure at the Original Sewing & Quilt Expo

The Original Sewing & Quilt Expo is an absolutely wonderful event that I traveled to in Dallas Texas. I took my mother Geneva Chapman (deceased in 2015) and Mother in law Willie Mae Brown (105 years old now) back in 2013. I had such a wonderful time. I was able to sew in the Sewing for a Cause booth making quilt blocks for Men of Valor quilts, and do back packs. If anyone wants to get away and enjoy a wonderful time of checking out 100s of quilts and attend several demonstrations, this is the event to attend. The website gave truthful evidence of all the things happening. You are able to Shop for all types of products: machine embroidery, free sew-alongs, pattern making, machine demos, classes & videos, create take home items, etc, etc.

This event happens every year in several cities throughout the year. I loved it and learned so much. I'll plan to go again, anyone interested? Check out their website for all the details www.sewingexpo.com

--Priscilla Brown



Know Your Story, Tell Your Story

"Know your story, tell your story, celebrating our journey, embracing our future" is the title of a two-week summer program for middle school students June 15-26, 2026, sponsored by Cleo Parker Robinson Dance and held at Shorter AME Church. I was asked to give a one-hour talk on "Exploring the African Diaspora from both sides of the Atlantic" as it relates to quilting. We began with a song, then my lecture, and afterwards I led them in an interactive, hands-on, creative quilt project. Although I was scheduled to lead the class on Monday from 1-3, we also spent several hours together on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday, Dr. Adrienne Bryant welcomed us into her home, where she, my sister Carolyn, and I sashed the blocks and began arranging the layout. I had originally planned for the fused appliqué to be sufficient, but after working with the blocks, I felt they needed additional support to stabilize them. To strengthen them, I machine-appliqued each block, finished the sashing, and arranged the pieces like a gallery wall. I then quilted it with a meandering pattern. I genuinely enjoyed working with the students, who are talented artists. Each block was a unique creation, and each

student added a handwritten "word of wisdom" and signed their individual block.

Two students read two quotes that I put on their packets. One by Jessie Jackson, "America is not like a blanket-one piece of unbroken cloth. America is more like a quilt – many patches, many pieces, many colors, many sizes, all woven together by a common thread."

The second quote was by Maya Angelou, "You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."

Although this was not a Wa Shonaji event, Wa Shonaji showed up to help and I am grateful to Wa Shonaji members who assisted me: Camille Gary, Priscilla Brown, and Dr. Adrienne Bryant. Reniese Johnson and my sister, Carolyn Somerville generously donated fabric. Living up to our motto "each one, teach one".

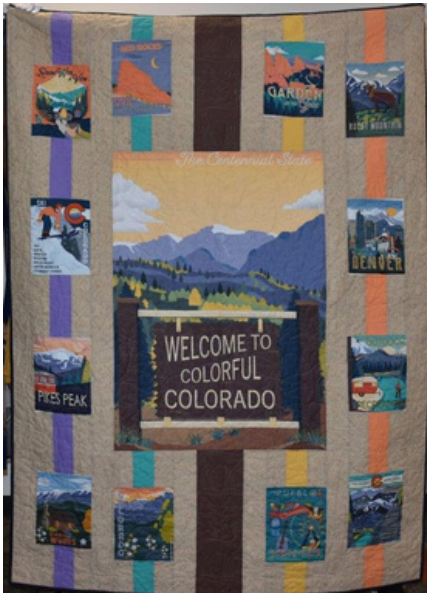
--Mary Lassiter



Donation Quilts



Completed UFO's



Quilt by Nonetta Pierre



Quilt by Karen von Phul



Quilt by Geneva Lottie



Quilt by Adrienne Bryant



Quilt by Daryn Miller



Quilt by Elaine Miller

July Show n Share



Quilt by Brenda Ames



Quilts by Di Nyce Brooks-Gough



Quilt by Louie Walker

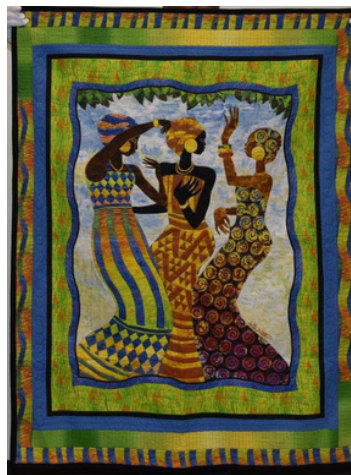


Quilts by Wendy Williams

August Show n Share



"Dame Dame" by Mary Lassiter



Quilt by Ivanna Johnson-McMurry



Quilt by Mary Lassiter



Stephanie Hobson & Nonetta Pierre



Quilt by Ivanna Johnson-McMurry



Quilt by Barbara Robinson

August Show n Share Cont'd



Quilt by Geneva Lottie



Kathy Byers & Stephanie Hobson



Quilt by Karen von Phul



Donation Quilt



Quilt by Ivanna Johnson-McMurry



Quilt by Mary Lassiter



A picture of Guild members who attended the 8/8/26 Opening Reception for the Wa Shonaji Exhibit at Blair-Caldwell

Area Textile Events:

[Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum](#)

1) August 29-September 12 Kid's Kamp Quilt exhibit in the main gallery.

2) Through October 17--Timespan Quilts by Anne Olsen

Anne Olsen has rescued and turned numerous quilt tops and blocks into well-crafted quilts that can be enjoyed for years to come. Starting with often unknown maker's concepts and a multitude of already made blocks, Anne has painstakingly deconstructed, cleaned, and often recut the pieces to correct sizing and construction issues. Fabrics that have become stained or stretched out- are cleaned or replaced with antique fabrics of the same timeframe, to repair a quilt top and keep it authentic. Anne's stash of antique fabrics are invaluable to her work. Anne hand quilted the final tops and took great care to match quilting to the era of the quilt top, and create final quilts that would have been totally characteristic of the time when the original blocks were created. Anne's donations to RMQM of her Timespan quilts are in our Permanent Collection.

3) Through October 17--20 Perspectives Conversing with the Earth

Covid helped to birth some amazing groups and this one is one of many quilting groups that formed during that time. This international collective of textile artists from 9 countries across 4 continents, found connection and energy as they used Zoom to meet and create art quilts based on a challenge topic agreed on. They created guidelines such as sizes that would allow their quilts to be appropriate for many galleries. They loved the group so much, they have continued to produce 3-4 exhibits per year. This exhibit connects with the earth in many ways and very different styles.

200 Violet Street, Suite 140, Golden, Colorado 80401 303-277-0377 Members Free. Non-Members \$12, (+65) \$10, 6-12 \$6, and under 6 Free. RMQM.org – for special event closings, and other details for planning your visit.

[Quaking Aspen Quilt Guild](#)

1) September 17--Trunk Sale Fundraiser 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

The Quaking Aspen Quilt Guild will be hosting a Guild Fundraiser Trunk Sale in the parking lot at Twisted Stitches on September 17 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Come treasure hunting for amazing bargains on fabric, notions, quilt books and patterns, sewing supplies, finished projects and anything “quilty”. Located at Twisted Stitches 405 Center Drive, Superior CO 80027.

2) October 13-14 Construction Techniques & October 20-21 Fabric Painting

Denise Labadie, an amazing internationally recognized art quilter will conduct a series of workshops teaching skills she uses for her remarkable art quilts. You can register for the workshops at Twisted-Stitches.com or (720) 355-3422. Summer Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 10AM – 4PM and Friday – Sunday 9AM – 9PM. (Other hours by appointment.) Twisted Stitches is a retreat/makerspace designed to support the way artists, crafters, and fiber enthusiasts work and connect.

[Colorado Quilting Council](#)

September 24-26--Quilt-a-Fair at the Boulder County Fair Grounds

[Handweavers Guild of Boulder](#)

November 4-8--The Fiber Art Show & Sale Wednesday 10-6 | Thursday 10-8 |

Friday & Saturday 10-6 | Sunday 10-3
Welcome to one of Colorado's premier art and craft celebrations! Located at the Boulder County Fair Grounds in Longmont, CO.

Acknowledgements

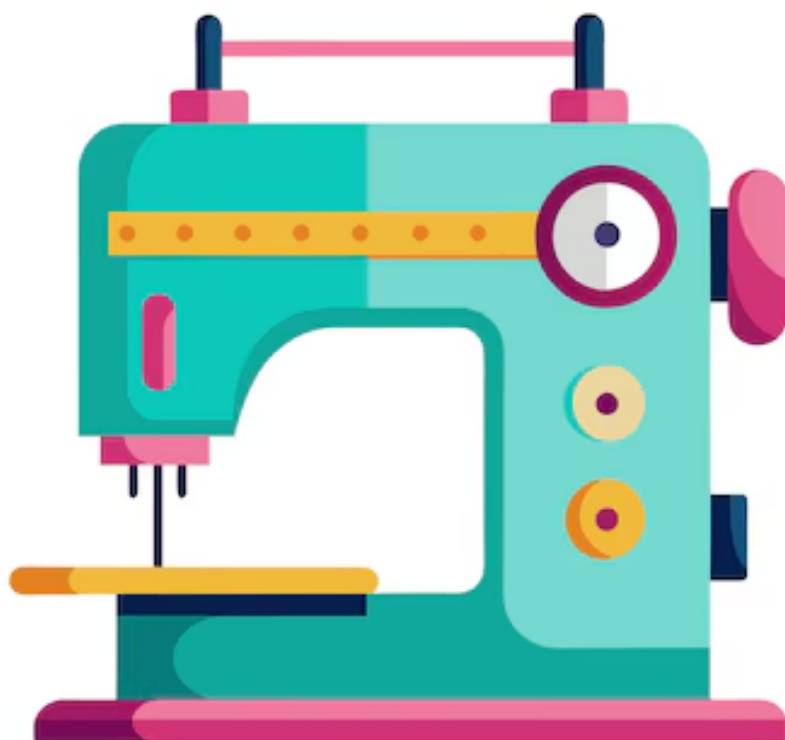
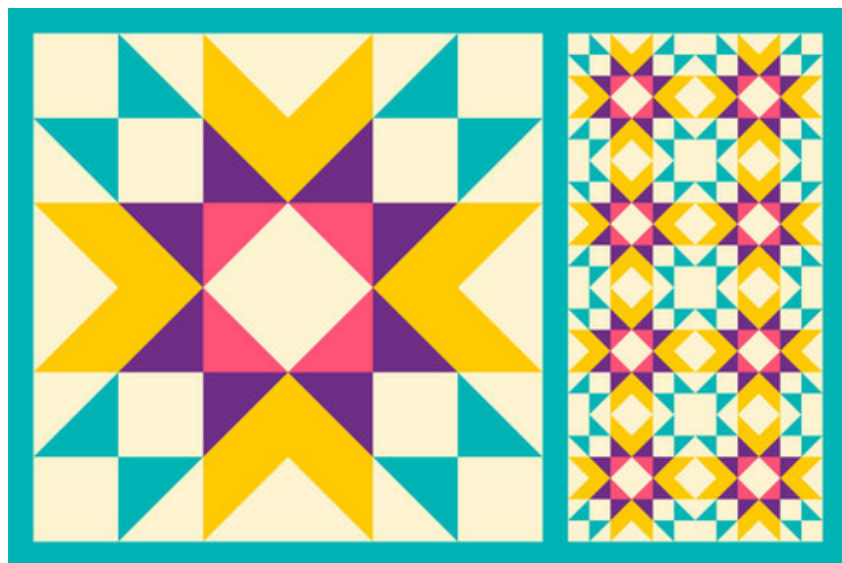
Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild

Wa Shonaji provides a warm, nurturing atmosphere to promote an interest in quilt making and other fiber arts primarily from an African-American perspective. We educate ourselves and share our knowledge with others, based on the motto “Each One Teach One.”

We seek to encourage the work and accomplishments of our members and to preserve the tradition, culture, and history of quilting. Rather than judge each other’s work, we learn from it and revel in it.

All quilters, regardless of their interests or skill levels, are welcome. MONTHLY MEETINGS 11 am, first Saturday of each month (unless it’s a holiday) at CrossPurpose, 3050 Richard Allen Court, Denver 80205

For more information, visit www.washonaji.org or email washonaji@gmail.com



Thank you to our contributors Linda White, Joette Bailey-Keown, Reniese Johnson, Priscilla Brown, Nanci Vaughn and Mary Lassiter for their wonderful additions to this newsletter.

—Editor Daryn Miller

SHOW AND SHARE Completed Quilt

Please PRINT LEGIBLY—2 forms per quilt

Date: _____ Dimensions _____ width X _____ length

Quilt Name: _____ Dominant Color _____

Maker Name: _____

Name of Quilter (if artist did not quilt): _____

Pattern Source or Original Design? Inspiration? No more than 3 sentences.

SHOW AND SHARE Completed Quilt

Please PRINT LEGIBLY—2 forms per quilt

Date: _____ Dimensions _____ width X _____ length

Quilt Name: _____ Dominant Color _____

Maker Name: _____

Name of Quilter (if artist did not quilt): _____

Pattern Source or Original Design? Inspiration? No more than 3 sentences.

UFO for SHOW AND SHARE Completed Quilt

Please PRINT LEGIBLY

Date: _____ Dimensions _____ width X _____ length

Quilt Name: _____ Dominant Color _____

Maker Name: _____ Age of Quilt _____

Name of Quilter (if artist did not quilt): _____

Pattern Source or Original Design? What was the inspiration? No more than 3 sentences.

UFO for SHOW AND SHARE Completed Quilt

Please PRINT LEGIBLY

Date: _____ Dimensions _____ width X _____ length

Quilt Name: _____ Dominant Color _____

Maker Name: _____ Age of Quilt _____

Name of Quilter (if artist did not quilt): _____

Pattern Source or Original Design? What was the inspiration? No more than 3 sentences.
