

JUDY NIEMEYER QUILTING

CERTIFIED TEACHING CLASS OUTLINES AND TEACHING MATERIAL

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Certified Instructor for our company! The following handout provides you with a detailed overview of what becoming Certified as an Instructor for our company involves. Since 2010, we have been certifying instructors that have been dedicated and avid followers of our company, completing quilts, attending a wide range of workshops, and teaching across the US as a pre-cursor to becoming an instructor with Quiltworx.com.

However, in the future, it will become more of a challenge to take classes directly from Judy. Additionally, our pattern line is growing significantly and simply making a quilt does not necessarily prepare you any longer for all of the details of our techniques and methods. Our interest in the program both from prospective teachers and also from shops, quilt shows, and guilds interested in hiring our Certified Instructors continues to grow as well. To make our training more efficient and accessible to people interested in becoming a part of the program, Quiltworx.com has developed a revised set of pre-requisites and materials on what you will be expected to learn to become Certified.

The program will no longer be run through an application/selection process, but rather as a training program for those interested in becoming Certified. If you complete the pre-requisites, then take our training course and successfully complete the techniques we require for our instructors to know, you will become Certified. Once Certified, refresher courses and on-going training will be available. You will be required to come back for updates once every three years and pay a minimum fee on an annual basis to help support our staff that works with you to meet the Certified Instructor needs, including shipment of patterns, shipment of quilts, assistance in booking classes, and marketing and advertising, including maintenance of a profile for you on our webpage.

Please read through the following information and if you have further questions and would like to pursue Certification, send an email to judel@quiltworx.com and shila@quiltworx.com so we can help you get the process started!

Pre-Requisites to Becoming Certified

1. You will be required to have attended one retreat in Montana (4 or 5 days with Judy only, or with Judy and a Certified Instructor),

Location: Montana ~ Quiltworx Retreats

Why: I require this because the retreat is a very relaxed atmosphere that allows the students to get to know me. It also allows me to spend time with each of you and get to know you.

2. You will be required to take one additional workshop (minimum of three-days each).

Location: (your choice)

Why: The more time you spend in a workshop with me the more opportunity you will have to learn and understand the techniques that are taught in our patterns.

3. One class with a Certified Instructor (minimum 3-days)

Location: (your choice)

Why: Taking a class from another Certified Instructor will help you see another perspective on teaching my techniques. It is good experience to see how another instructor teaches and works with its students.

4. One Introduction Training Work Shop (4-days)

(Provide by Judy and her Staff)

Location: (Training Center) Montana

Why: This workshop will be designed to give you insight into how the program is structured, and what is expected. When you leave, you will have a full understanding of what needs to be done to complete your training. This workshop can be taken prior to completing the minimum requirements for the workshop, but you will have needed to complete at least Item #1 before you can sign up for this program. We will discuss contracts, expectations of teachers, professional conduct, working with shops, how to build a portfolio, setting up a business plan, how our company works, and what techniques you need to be proficient at prior to finalizing certification. After leaving this workshop, you will be expected to finalize the minimum requirements listed here, and secure at least two teaching opportunities. These can be volunteer or paid, but we will provide you with class surveys that should be submitted, along with a class information form you can fill out to put in your records as these workshops are completed.

5. Quilts (Minimum of (5) completed quilts for your portfolio)

(These quilts MUST be quilted)

Why: You must be prepared to deliver samples to quilt shops to advertise your class, administer trunk shows, and demonstrate competency to your students through completed projects.

6. Teaching experience.

(Minimum of 2 workshops)

Why: Local teaching through a local shop, local guilds, or friends. A paid teaching contract is not necessary. Volunteer teaching is acceptable. You are not required to teach my patterns or techniques in these classes. All I am asking is that you have some teaching experience before you jump into being a Certified Instructor.

7. Certified Training Course: FINAL REQUIREMENT:

To complete your Certified Training Program you will be required to return to Montana for two weeks of training. During this training program you will be tested on the techniques that we teach. We will build a teaching portfolio with demonstrations for all the required techniques. You will also work on the completion of One Technique of the month during this class time. We will help you set up your accounts, set up your lectures, and build contracts. The completion of this training will be provided by Judy, a certified Instructor and her staff.

What is Teaching All About?

Since I started the program, I have had many people come to me and express interest in the program. I have learned a lot about why different people are interested and based on these conversations, I have developed a list of questions that I believe everyone should ask themselves before they determine that pursuing this program is the right path for them.

First, what is the reason you would like to teach, and does it align with performing the various duties in the list below on a regular basis (at least one weekend a month)?

List of Duties Teachers are Expected to Perform as a National Instructor: Lectures, Education, Training, Sharing (Trunk Shows), Helping (Quiltworx.com Support Network, phone calls, emails, etc.), Demonstrations, Traveling, Signing Contracts, Commitment, Communication, Organization,

Are you prepared to be away from your family for extended periods of time?

I spend a lot of time in my hotel room by myself while my family is at home. It can become very lonely at times, and even exhausting is during those hours, I am often catching up on the other business aspects of my life.

Are you social and enjoy the company of other people?

Teaching requires you to refocus your emotions and energy on your students and away from yourself. You need to be comfortable engaging your students on a personal level. You don't have to like them, but you don't need to share that with anyone other than yourself. Be prepared to laugh, be patient, let things go, and have a good time. You are there to provide them with an enjoyable experience, not for yourself. It is very important that you are prepared for this type of personal interaction with your students.

Are you interested in what your students might bring to the table to teach you?

The most successful instructors recognize when they walk into a classroom, that they are with a wealth of experience from students and that if you listen to the way students perceive your instructions, they can teach you how to be better, give you new ideas, or even teach you something you didn't know before. A student that walks away feeling respected will likely come back again because they had a great time and you instilled trust.

Are you prepared to show up early and set up, plus stay after the workshop with the store staff and make sure the teaching areas is completely spotless before you leave?

As a contracted service to the Quilt Shop, this is professional courtesy that becomes your responsibility as an instructor. If you are interested in being an instructor and willing to take on a leadership and guidance role, along with being accountable to other businesses for your actions and conduct, you will be successful and a teaching career may be an excellent fit for you. If you really just enjoy making quilts and want to work on your own projects instead of others, then pursuing a national instructor position, might not be the best fit. It is something you need to decide for yourself.

Do you have a business plan?(When I ask for a business plan I am wanting to know what are your expectations for yourself after you complete your certification.

Becoming Certified is a significant investment. After completing the pre-requisites for the program, you may have as much as \$15,000 into pre-training workshops, including workshops, quilts, travel, and the training program fees. In addition, you will have an annual certification fee (in 2014, this fee is \$450.00). These costs are usually ones that can be returned in income after a year (or even less than that in teaching), if you are doing lectures, workshops, selling patterns at shows and trunk shows, etc. You need to make sure that you are prepared for how you will make teaching profitable for you. And, a business plan of how you plan to create a successful teaching career is important.

Who do you want to teach for? (Guilds) (friends) (shops) (retreats) (cruises) (conventions) (national shows)

Are you simply wanting to teach at the quilt shop down the road or to your local guild? Are you considering teaching across your region and/or State? Are you looking for national exposure? Do you want to specialize in niche teaching (cruises, private retreats, your own training program?)

Are you willing to travel? If the answer is yes then how much?

Our instructors spend a significant amount of time traveling, both by car and also air. You will need to determine how much you would like to do, how frequently, and how long this is sustainable for you either due to family, health, age, or other personal issues.

What would you expect for an income? Do you need the income?

Are you prepared for a situation where it may take some time to build up classes? Does your business plan consider viable ways that you can meet your income needs?

Are you interested in teaching other techniques for other instructors?

Some of our instructors are professional instructors, teaching more than just Quiltworx.com patterns. Are you already doing this and if so, how would having multiple certifications benefit you?

Which Quilts Have You Made?

I am often asked which quilts students need to complete to be best prepared for being a Certified Instructor. The quilts below have been sorted by workshop possibilities. Go through the list and make a check by each quilt you have made. The more groups you can hit, the better prepared you are to teach a wide range of class options when asked. Likewise, if you focus on one group, these groups could be offered as one class over multiple days so students have some flexibility in selecting the project they want to work on. This list is current as of January 2014.

1. Lone Star Series

Prairie Star, Amazon Star, Summer Solstice, Cattails in the Meadow, Agave Garden, Dragon Star

2. Flying Geese Series

Seasonal Table Runner, Autumn Splendor, Crackers, Misty Mountain Pond, Glacier Pines, Celtic Wave

3. New York Beauty Long Spike Series

Rain Drops, Arizona Cactus, Japanese Fan, Sea Urchin

4. Wedding Ring Series

Bali Wedding Star, Bali Bed Runner, Flowers for my Wedding Ring, Art Deco Sawtooth Wedding Ring, Princess Tiara, Primrose Wedding Ring, Cotton Candy, Forever Yours Table Runner, Grandma's Wedding Ring, Geese at my Wedding, Diamond Wedding Ring

5. Mariners Compass

Captain Wheel, Compass Rose, Thistle Pods, Golden Harvest, Vintage Compass

6. Feathered Star Series

Feathered Snowflake, Feathered Star Wall Hanging, Christmas Celebration, Feathered Star Queen, Winter Wonderland Snowflake

10. New York Beauty

4th of July, Sunflower Illusions, Arizona Cactus, Farmers Star, Tumbleweeds' Coxcomb, Golden Harvest, Dancing Batiks, Sand Devils

11. Stepping Stones

Stepping Stones, Garden Wall, Weeping Willow, Willow Bed Runner, Waterfalls

12. Log Cabin

Split Log Cabin, Cabin Fever, Log Cabin Cutouts Series, Osprey's Nest

13. Technique of the Month Quilts

Glacier Star, Mariners Compass

15. Bali Pops Quilts

Bali Fever, Confetti, Stepping Stones, Waterfalls, Fractured Paint Box, Garden Wall, Wedding Ring Quilts

Techniques

As you prepare for the program, please consider what Techniques you have mastered while making the above list of patterns. Likewise, you might want to consider what it would look like if you were going to show someone else how to do the same thing.

Strip Piecing

Strip Piecing Lone Star Quilts
Strip Piecing Wedding Ring Arcs

Shuffling Template Pieces

Split Log Cabin
Osprey Nest
Cabin Fever
Sandevils

Chain Piecing Techniques

General Piecing Technique that Can Apply to All Quilts
New York Beauty Blocks
Mariner's Compass Blocks
Flying Geese Blocks

Cut-Out Techniques

Tumble Weeds
Tropical Rainbow
One for All Season
Cabin Fever
Osprey's Nest
Drunkers Wave/Gummie Dots

Changing Places Techniques

Crackers
Arizona Cactus
Three Ducks in a Row
Woven Blanket
Indian Summer

Curved Piecing

General Piecing Techniques
Wedding Rings, New York Beauties, Small Stars, S-Curves

Templates and Template Layout Sheets:

1. Explain what a Template Layout Sheet is and how to use it.
2. Design a Template Layout Sheet.
3. Show how to cut fabric with a Template Layout Sheet.
4. Show how to use a Template Layout Sheet without cutting it apart.
5. Show how to stack the pieces from a Template Layout Sheet.
6. Design a block using Paper Piecing Templates.
7. Design the Paper Piecing Templates into a Template Layout Sheet.

Stacking Techniques

Stacking and Pairing up Fabrics:

1. Show how to pair up fabrics for Desert Sky using light and dark fat quarters.
2. Study and discuss how to pair up fabrics for Rain Drops, Japanese Fan, 4th of July, Sunflower Illusions, & Sea Urchins. Have each student pick fabrics and make a sample of each unit.
3. Have the students pair up fabrics using **light & dark** contrast, **medium & dark** contrast and **dark & medium** contrast. Each student should make one block using the different combinations from the blocks selected above for their teaching portfolio.

Lone Star & Diamond Log Cabin Star Quilts

1. Choose colors for a Lone Star .
2. Make a lone star strip set using the strip piecing process which is demonstrated in all our patterns. This would show cutting and trimming the pieces before sewing them onto the next strip.
3. Have each student make a strip using the technique where the strips are not cut apart.
4. Have each student make a set using precut diamond pieces.
5. Diamond Log cabin Techniques
6. How to assemble and press an Eight Pointed Star.
7. How to join the diamond rows, each intersection is a match.