



## 2025 QUILT CONTEST RULES

### ENTRY TIMELINE

- **September 2, 2024** – Call for entry opens – ONLINE ENTRY ONLY
- **January 13, 2025** – Online entry deadline
- **January 17, 2025** – **Pieces must be received in the HLSR offices by noon on this date.** If mailing your quilt, we recommend tracking your package as questions regarding receipt of the quilt will not be acknowledged.
- **TBD** - Judging
- **March 4, 2025** – Results posted on website.
- **March 4-23, 2025** – Quilts on display at Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (HLSR)
- **March 31 – April 4, 2025** – Quilts to be return shipped or available for pick up\*

\*There is an opportunity for some of the award-winning quilts from the exhibit to travel and be displayed at the Texas Quilt Museum and the International Quilt Festival – Houston. Travel would be at the quilter's discretion.

### DISPLAY

Selected entries will be displayed on the first floor of NRG Center March 4-23, 2025. The HLSR reserves the right to exhibit quilts as space and criteria permit.

### CLASSIFICATIONS

There are two (2) classifications in the quilt contest: Adult and Youth (ages 21 and under). **Those who are submitting quilt entries on behalf of an Area Go Texan or Metro Area Go Texan committee can submit one (1) entry per classification (adult and/or youth).**

### ADULT

There are two (2) divisions in the Adult Classification, each with four (4) categories:

1. **MACHINE QUILTING**
  - a. Applique
  - b. Piecework
  - c. Pictorial (theme quilt)
  - d. Mixed Technique (which includes any technique not covered in other specific categories).
2. **HAND QUILTING**
  - a. Applique
  - b. Piecework
  - c. Pictorial (theme quilt)

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- d. Mixed Technique (which includes any technique not covered in other specific categories)

## YOUTH

There are two (2) divisions in the Youth Classification (may be further categorized at the discretion of HLSR):

1. **MACHINE QUILTING**
2. **HAND QUILTING**

## JUDGING

Quilts will be judged in the following five (5) areas:

1. **Overall Appearance** – Condition of the quilt, neatness, pleasing feel, appearance, uniqueness, and relationship of border to quilt.
2. **Workmanship** – Accuracy of piecing or applique, quality of stitching, bindings, and corners.
3. **Suitability/Color** – Compatibility of materials to function and to each other, and design and color in relationship to intended use.
4. **Originality** – Deviations of familiar patterns as well as total design.
5. **Design** – Scale, placement, unity, distinctiveness, originality, and relationship of quilting design.

## AWARDS

Awards are awarded to both classifications:

### ADULT

- Best of Show
- Two (2) Best of Division
- Eight (8) Best of Category
- Two (2) Judges' Choice (in recognition of special merit as designated by each judge of the quilt contest).
- Committees Choice (voted as the favorite by the quilt subcommittee members).
- Blue, red, white, and green ribbons.

### YOUTH\*

- Best of Show
- Two (2) Best of Division
- Two (2) Judges' Choice (in recognition of special merit as designated by each judge of the quilt contest).
- Committees Choice (voted as the favorite by the quilt subcommittee members).
- Blue, red, white, and green ribbons.

*\*Youth entries may be further categorized at the discretion of HLSR. If further categorization takes place additional ribbons may be awarded.*

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## ELIGIBILITY

Entries can be entered by an individual that resides in either an Area Go Texan County or Houston Metro Area. Entry is open to quilters residing in the following Texas counties:

Anderson, Angelina, Aransas, Austin, Bastrop, Bee, Bell, Bosque, Brazoria, Brazos, Burleson, Caldwell, Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Colorado, Comanche, Coryell, DeWitt, Falls, Fayette, Fort Bend, Freestone, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Gregg, Grimes, Hamilton, Harding, Harris, Harrison, Henderson, Hill, Houston, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Karnes, Lampasas, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Live Oak, Madison, Matagorda, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Panola, Polk, Refugio, Robertson, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Shelby, Smith, Trinity, Tyler, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Washington, Wharton, Williamson.

## CONTEST FORMAT

Quilts will be submitted for judging in a private session by qualified judges. The judges' comments sheets and award ribbon(s) will be mailed back with the quilt or available during quilt pick up.

## RULES

1. Only online entries will be accepted. Beginning September 2, 2024, entrants must complete the online form available at <http://secure.rodeohouston.com/donate/?code=QuiltShow>. The entry form requires three (3) photos (full front view, detail/close up of front, and back view), a 50-word or less artist statement, and a \$30 entry fee.
2. Pieces that have been on prior exhibit at the HLSR are not eligible for entry.
3. Quilts must consist of three (3) layers: backing, batting, and top. (Exceptions include yo-yo quilts, cathedral-window style quilts, and crazy quilts.)
4. Quilts may be appliqued, pieced or any combination of quilting techniques. Quilting and piecing of the quilt may be done by machine or hand. If machine quilted, each block must be 2/3 quilted.
5. Maximum size permitted: 108"x108". Smaller quilts will be accepted. When measuring quilts, a metal tape measure should be used.
6. Quilts must have been constructed within the past two calendar years (January 2023 through December of 2024) and must be finished/completed at time of entry.
7. **Youth Classification:** All workmanship (including quilting and finishing) must be done by an individual or group within the youth age range to qualify for the Youth Classification. Youth age range is defined as 21 or below on December 31, 2024. If any part of the quilt was worked on by an individual older than 21, the quilt will be judged in the Adult Classification.
8. Only colorfast fabrics that have been pre-shrunk are to be used in the quilts entered in the contest. Any fabric used should be no more than 50% synthetic fiber, including backing, except for crazy quilts. Double knits may not be used.

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9. No pre-printed quilt cloth (cheater cloth), pre-quilted fabric, or pre-printed whole cloth quilt tops may be used.
10. Manufactured quilts will not be accepted.
11. Quilts made from mass-produced kits will NOT be accepted. This includes block of the month quilts made from fabrics pre-selected for the quiltmaker. (Block of the month patterns will be allowed only if quiltmaker has selected their own fabrics).
12. Trademarked logos, slogans, and licensed characters are not permitted in part or in whole and will be disqualified. This also applies to the title of the artwork.
13. Entrants are responsible for ensuring that their entry complies with all applicable copyright laws.
14. Entries made using a published design, pattern, or digital embroidery must acknowledge book, pattern, and/or designer. Credit must be given to the author, teacher, artist, etc. who inspired the work if applicable.
15. Quilt may be made either by an individual or by a group of quilters, but acknowledgement must be given to anyone participating in the execution of the quilts, and all participants must reside within eligible Texas counties. See ELIGIBILITY section above.
16. Quilts that require special handling will not be accepted. Quilts must be able to be stacked, boxed, and folded with other pieces without damage to itself or other quilts stacked, boxed, or folded with it.
17. Quilt must arrive **clean and in good condition**. Quilts found to be soiled, ripped or torn, stained, or to have an unpleasant odor will be disqualified.
18. Quilts must be delivered enclosed in a **sturdy, large, clear, appropriately sized** bag with a **working zipper** and **without wire support (wire is challenging to pack and/or could break and damage the quilt)**. Please DO NOT use a pillowcase or cloth bag. To protect the quilt, the bag must be in good condition. **Quilts not submitted in such a bag will be subject to a \$5 fee for the provision of this bag.**
19. Eash quilt entry must have a 4-inch finished double casing sewn across the full width of the back of the top edge for hanging on a rod in the display. This is called the sleeve. This sleeve needs to be stitched on the top and bottom. For more information, please see the "Sleeve/Casing Instructions" below.
20. A label must be sewn on the back of each quilt. **This label must be embroidered, typed, or written with a fabric pen on muslin. DO NOT use a ballpoint pen.** The label must include the name of the quilt, quiltmaker(s) name(s), quilt owner's name, and contact info. Prior to submission, this label should be covered by a 3"x5" index card using safety pins to attach it temporarily to the quilt to preserve anonymity during the judging process.
21. All decisions of the judges are final. HLSR reserves the right to decline any entry, including those that fail to follow the quilt contest rules.

## SHIPPING AND INSURANCE POLICY

Entrant is responsible for shipping to HLSR; HLSR will be responsible for return shipping, as follows: Quilt will be mailed two weeks after the close of the Show to the person designated on the entry form. **Please note that there is an opportunity for some of the award-winning quilts from the**

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exhibit to travel and be displayed at the Texas Quilt Museum and the International Quilt Festival – Houston. Travel would be at the quilter’s discretion from approximately March 2025 – January 2026.

HLSR will insure each accepted entry against damage from the time we receive the entry until it is in the hands of the return courier, up to the value amount on the entry form or maximum of \$500, whichever value is lowest. It is highly recommended that entries valued over \$500 be appraised and the entrant obtain additional insurance to cover any damage to the entry while in transit at the Show. Every attempt is made to ensure the security of your entry at the Show.

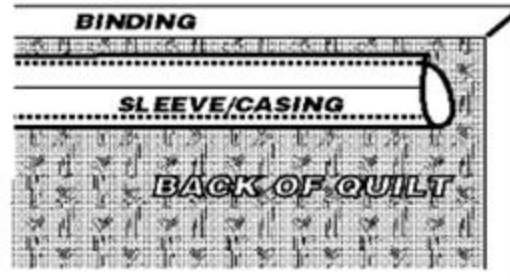
## SLEEVE/CASING INSTRUCTIONS

A sleeve or casing is the most practical way to prepare a quilt for hanging without damaging the quilt in any way. It is perhaps the simplest and most effective method because a rod can be inserted and suspended between standards. To make a sleeve or casing:



- A. Cut a strip 9” wide and 1” longer than the top of your quilt. Finish the end by turning the raw edges of each end toward the wrong side approximately ¼”; then turn under again stitching in place by hand and machine.
- B. Fold the strip in half, lengthwise, right sides together and stitch, using ½” seam allowance.
- C. Press the sleeve so that the seam is centered on the back of the sleeve.
- D. The sleeve is stitched to the back of the quilt with the seam to the outside lessening abrasion to the quilt and ensuring a flat surface to the quilt while it hangs.
- E. Hand-stitch the sleeve across the top backside of the quilt. Place the sleeve just under the binding (or approximately ½” from the top edge of the quilt). Stitch through ALL layers, using ¼” stitches on the front of the quilt and ½” to ¾” stitches on the backside. The stitches should go through all layers of the quilt so there be less strain on the quilt. The ¼” stitches on the front will not show or will show so little that they will not be seen from exhibiting distance, especially if you use a neutral or coordinating thread color.
- F. Begin stitching in the center of the quilt and work out to one side. Repeat from the center out to the other side. Repeat for the bottom edge of the sleeve/casing.

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