

Sixth Biennial Old Deerfield Quilt Challenge
Sponsored by
Hands Across the Valley Quilters Guild, Amherst, MA
Memorial Hall Museum, Deerfield, MA

Challenge Rules:

1. **Design and create a quilt**—pieced, appliquéd, surface design/embellishment (such as embroidered or painted,) or “whole cloth” quilting—based on some aspect of the Nims Laurel Leaves quilt (photo available from the HAVQG website).
2. **Eligibility:** competition is open to all quilters in New England.
3. **Entries must be original.** Quilts from kits or created in a classroom or workshop setting with input or assistance from an instructor will be not accepted. Designs may be traditional or original but must reflect the inspiration from the Nims piece. Entries must not have been displayed, published or submitted for peer or professional critiques or approval before delivery to Deerfield. Designs must be strictly individual and without input from any others.
4. **Size:** An entry must have a perimeter of no less than 144” nor more than 360”. The quilts may be as small as 36” x 36” or as large as 90” x 90”.
5. **Shape:** An entry may be of any shape as long as it meets the size requirements stated in #4 above and is able to be hung (not displayed flat.)
6. **Hanging:** A 6” sleeve must be attached to the back of a standard shaped quilt for hanging. Hanging apparatus for unusually shaped quilts must be attachable to traditional quilt show display frames and is the responsibility of the entrant. HAVQG reserves the right not to hang quilts that do not have appropriate sleeves and/or hanging apparatus.
7. **Construction:** Entries must be constructed primarily of fabric, comprised of three layers, and quilted. Any technique or combination of techniques may be used. Embellishments may also be used.
8. **Quilting:** Entries must not be ties or commercially quilted. There must, however, be some hand or machine quilting on the piece.
9. **A cloth label** must be sewn to the back of the quilt in the right lower corner. The label must include the maker’s name, address, and telephone number in permanent ink or other permanent means.
10. **All entered quilts must be available for exhibition and travel purposes at Memorial Hall Museum for up to 10 months following the quilt show.** MHM insures each quilt in its possession during that time for \$1,000, and assumes responsibility for the safe return of the quilts to their owners.
11. **It is the responsibility of the entrant to choose the category—pieced, appliquéd, surface design, or whole cloth quilted—in which to enter the quilt based on the predominant technique used.** However, HAVQG reserves the right to change an entry’s category if necessary.
12. **HAVQG reserves the right not to hand quilts which are unfinished, soiled or unsuitable** for display purposes and/or which do not meet the criteria set forth in the Challenge Rules.
13. **Completed application and nonrefundable entry fee of \$20.00** must be postmarked by **January 13, 2009.** Checks should be made payable to HAVQG. **Information about where and when to ship your quilt will be sent with the confirmation that your entry form and fee have been received. Guidelines for packing and enclosures will also be sent with the confirmation.**
14. **Questions?** Contact Marjorie Childers at 413-628-4548 evenings after 7 or via email at childersm@elms.edu

Venue:

Quilts in this challenge will be exhibited at the Hands Across the Valley Quilters Guilds Eleventh Biennial Quilt Show on March 21-22, 2009, at Amherst College, Amherst, MA. Also see #10 above concerning the subsequent display of quilts at Memorial Hall Museum. Additional information about the show will be sent with your confirmation.

Insurance:

Neither Hands Across the Valley Quilters Guild nor Memorial Hall Museum assumes any responsibility for quilts in transit to the show. During the show, HAVQG insures each quilt for **maximum** of \$1,000 and will provide 24-hour supervision of the quilts. We suggest that each entrant also insure his/her quilt through a homeowner's policy and that insurance is purchased through the shipper.

Judging:

Judging will be done with no labels visible. Judges are not affiliated with the guild. Scoring sheets for the quilt will be given to each entrant after prizes are awarded. It is possible that not all ribbons will be awarded, based on the judges' decisions.

Prizes:

It is anticipated that there will be first, second, and third place awards will be given in each category: pieced, appliqué, surface design, and whole cloth quilt. Ribbons will be placed on the winning quilts after the judging, and a ceremony recognizing awards will take place on Sunday afternoon, March 22, 2009. Prizes in addition to the ribbons will be announced at a later date.