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Sharing my Knowledge

Contact Michelle for class openings, availability and detailed information.

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I love to quilt and to share what I have learned with other quilters. If you or your guild would like to share in the fun and joy of quilting Southwest Designs, take a look at the lecture and class topics found here. The newest classes are listed first.

LECTURES/TRUNK SHOWS

FROM AN IDEA TO A QUILT

This lecture and trunk show features some of my very best work and takes you through my design process. It's a power point presentation with several actual quilts for viewing. We discuss where my ideas come from, how I draw, calculate yardage and assemble the quilt.

MY WEARABLE ART COLLECTION

This is a lecture and trunk show featuring my journey as a wearable art designer. It's a power point presentation and a close up look at tons of the actual wearable creations. With the help of guild members, we can even have a mini fashion show.

THE BEAUTY OF THE SOUTHWEST

This is a lecture and trunk show featuring numerous quilts and wearable art pieces I have created over the last 16 years. It is also a look at where I get my inspiration. As a quilt artist and designer, I have strived to create quilts that express my passion and my own style. I will show a unique collection of quilts and wearable art inspired by the beauty of the Southwest, Native American, Spanish, Hispanic and Anglo cultures. Weavings, pottery, woven baskets, jewelry, beadwork, tinwork, ironwork, carvings, tile, architecture, churches and other art are my inspiration. One of the garments traveled with The Fairfield Fashion Show 1999/2000. I also share my journey to where I am now. I am a quilt designer who enjoys sharing my passion for living in the Southwest with others.

THE QUILTED CROSS

This is a lecture and trunk show that features all the quilts from my book, The Quilted Cross. I will tell you how the book came about and where I get many of my design ideas. See how color and fabrics change the look of a project.

There are photos of each class project on my website. Go to <http://www.jmichellewatts.com>

Classes and Workshops



SCRAP REDUCTION #1

Everyone has a pile of left over strips sitting on their shelves. Let me show you this great way to get rid of them. Use strips of all lengths and widths for this wonderful, easy to piece quilt. Quilt was inspired by traditional Boston Commons pattern.

This is a full day class (6 hours).



SCRAP REDUCTION #2

NEW Use all the left over strips sitting on your shelves to make these wonderful pieced circles. Let me show you this great way to get rid of them. Use strips of all lengths and widths for this wonderful, easy to piece quilt. Make 1 block for a wall hanging or 9 blocks for a big quilt. (6 hours)



NEW FUN WITH FAT QUARTERS -

I have designed a super simple quilt using 16 fat quarters. This top can be cut out and pieced in about 4 hours. It's a great project for all the large prints you don't want to cut into tiny pieces. This is a full day class (6 hours).



NEW* OJO DE DIOS -

This is my newest quilt, using the 9 degree wedge ruler. The center square will be the focus of this all day class. This is a full day class (6 hours).



NEW* STENCILING QUILT BLOCKS

This is a fun way to make quilt blocks using Paintstiks and fabric. Learn how to make your own stencils and create a wonderful wall hanging or pillow during class. (6 hours)



Wearable Art Class- Chevron Jacket

This is always a popular class. A pieced circular yoke embellishes a dolman sleeve jacket. This makes a striking jacket. The 9 degree wedge ruler is needed for this class. Students work on the circular yoke design in class and learn the how to attach the yoke to jacket base.

This is a 1 1/2 day class (9 hours). This can be a full day class, with some pre-class cutting (6 hours).



Acoma

Broken pieces of pottery were my inspiration for this contemporary block. It's an easy block with only 4 different appliqué pieces. This block can be set together several different ways. This was a featured pattern in the AQS book released in spring 2005.

This is a 1/2 day class (3 hours)



Amish Stars

This is one of the designs from my book, *Round About Quilts*. The 9 degree wedge ruler is needed for class. You will complete at least one star in class. This is a full day class (6 hours).



Cross Your Heart

You're going to love this block, cross my heart. A simple cross hangs inside an open heart. Let me show you how to appliqué and quilt the blocks at the same time. Learn how to assemble the individual blocks, once they are complete. If you don't like wrestling with quilting big quilts, this is a great technique. This quilt would be a delightful baby quilt done in lots of bright colors. Try making it a traditional scrap quilt. This quilt is one of the blocks in my book, *The Quilted Cross*, printed by the American Quilter's Society.

This is a full day class (6 hours). This can also be done in a 1/2 day (3 hours) class.



Dancing Maidens

Everyone loves Sunbonnet Sue, but here in the southwest we don't wear bonnets and petticoats. This is my southwestern version of an old favorite. Learn simple machine appliqué techniques. I will also share several different embellishing ideas.

This was a featured pattern in AQS book that was released in spring 2005.

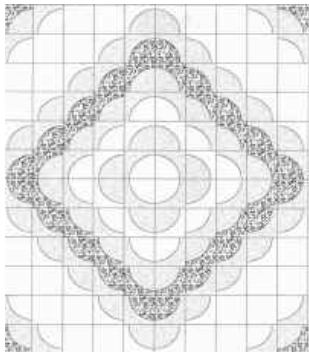
This is a 1/2 day class (3 hours).



Drawstring Purse

This is a wonderful purse to carry for everyday. You will want to make several. They also make a great gift . Learn how to make this great purse. Learn several different embellishment techniques and creative variations. The purse can be made in 2 different sizes.

This is a 1/2 day class (3 hours).



Love Rings

This is a variation of the traditional Drunkard's Path quilt. Let me show you a way to conquer this curve pieced block with NO STRESS. You will be able to successfully make any Drunkard's Path block using this technique.

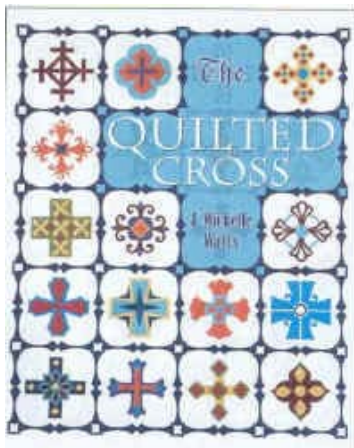
This is a full day class (6 hours).



Redwork Embroidery by Machine

I have taken the traditional redwork concept and added a contemporary twist. Learn how to do these unique embroidery designs on the sewing machine. Embroidery work can be done in red, black or color of your choice. Designs can also be done by hand. Choose from several different blocks to work on during class.

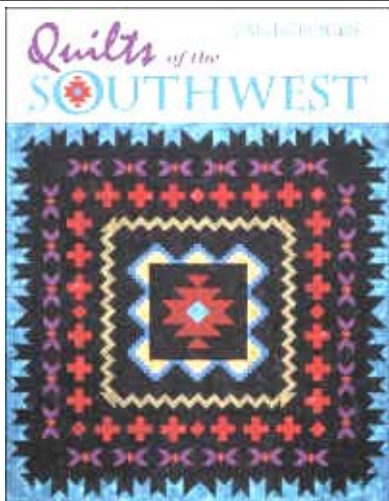
This is a 1/2 day class (3 hours).



Santa Cruz

Learn the basics and a few tricks for perfect machine appliqué. Work on your choice of 4 different blocks as you learn all about machine appliqué. There are 20 different appliquéd cross blocks featured in my book, *The Quilted Cross*, printed by American Quilter's Society.

This is a full day class (6 hours).



Santa Fe Sampler

This is a traditional medallion quilt with a southwestern flair. Five different geometric borders surround a center medallion. Learn several cutting and quick machine piecing techniques. This is the featured pattern in AQS book that was released in spring 2005.

This is a great 2 day class (12 hours) I also teach a small version as a full day class (6 hours).



Scrap Lone Star

Piece large diamonds using the fun and fast flip and sew technique. learn how to piece those scary "y" seams as you assemble your top. Students will work on a 51" x 51" quilt. Instructions for a large Broken Star design are also included.

This is a 1 and 1/2 day class (9 hours). This can be a full day class, with pre-class cutting (6 hours).



Stones of a Different Color

Work on sharpening your piecing skills as you piece this 30" x 30" wall quilt. Basic rotary cutting, accurate machine piecing and important pressing techniques will be discussed. This pattern is featured in my book, Quilts of the Southwest.

This is a full day class (6 hours).



Southwest Medallion

A unique oval medallion is in the center of this beautiful southwestern quilt. This design is inspired by a woven basket design. The center medallion will be taught in a full day class, then the background completed after class. The 9 degree wedge ruler is needed for this class.

This is a 1 day class (6 hours.)



Squash Blossom

This wonderful quilt combines a simple, easy to piece block and a pieced sashing. The combination of the two creates a secondary design. Students will work on a 34" x 34" wall size project during class. This pattern features instructions included for making a queen size project.

This is a full day class (6 hours).



A Wreath for All Seasons

You'll want to piece one of these wreaths for each season. This is a simple wedge ruler design. Rotary cut and machine piece this circular creation. This quilt can be finished as a circle or the patchwork border can be added. The 9 degree wedge ruler is needed for this class.

This is a full day class (6 hours).

